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ABSTRACT

The Invent America program addresses the need to provide K-8 students with opportunities to learn critical and creative thinking skills through the process of inventing. Students apply problem-solving skills as they turn their own creative ideas into inventions. It is an effort to integrate the curriculum, help students synthesize knowledge, and provide hands-on experience in the scientific process. The Invent America! program consists of handbooks for students, teachers and program administrators, which can be used to develop a school/classroom invention program; a catalog of recommended books to supplement the program; national and regional conferences to train educators in techniques to help students develop thinking skills; and inservice programs throughout the country to help schools begin Invent America! programs. Included in this document are methods for planning and implementing Invent America! Available for photocopying are sample letters to parents and prospective judges, sample response forms to recruit judges, and recognition certificate masters as well as information for sponsors, volunteers, and public relation efforts. Also included are contest and awards programs. (MVL)

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